an>

Title: Need to give incentives to the farmers for setting up of more cold storages in the country.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I would like to bring the following matter for the consideration of the hon. Minister of Agriculture. The Indian farmers are in distress. They do not get requisite price for their products as there are no proper facilities to store their perishable products. A lot of their farm produce gets drenched and destroyed. Items like potato and other vegetables perish very easily for lack of proper cold storage facilities. They have no other alternative but to make distress sales of their products at the nearest market. Since at present the cost of electricity is very high, it is not viable to the person who wants to set up a cold storage industry.

The Central Government should think seriously on this matter and come up with concrete steps to give more subsidy to encourage setting up of more cold storages. This will go a long way in solving the problems of farmers and enable them to get the requisite price for their hard earned farm produce. It is needless to mention that such a step will add to the country's economic growth.

Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Government to take urgent steps to encourage setting up of more cold storage units in the country.